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eral aim, as the Vice-Presidents & Secretaries may think proper to make, be signed by these officers, & that the Hist. Com. be instructed to have it forwarded to the Legislature.

"*Resolved,* That if the said Memorial shall be successful, the money which may be obtained in consequence thereof, shall be exclusively applied to the use & purposes of the Com. of History, the Moral Sciences and General Literature."

Finance Committee made a detailed statement of the revenue of the Society, amounting, for 1827, to $1558.88.

Library donations from four persons.

New York Custom House: "Mr. DuPonceau, having stated a case of vexatious detention of a package of books, at the Custom House at New York, intended for the Society, it was

"*Resolved,* That Mr. DuPonceau be authorized to address the Secretary of the Treasury on the subject."

1828. *Jan'y* 4. (Present, 16. DuPonceau in the Chair; Vaughan, Ord, Harlan, Hembel, Wetherill, Lukens, Nichols, Mease, Meigs, Mitchell, Kane, Patterson, Horner, Vaux, Bache.)

Annual election (by 19 members); the report of the Judges and Clerks, read:

ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

President—Peter S. DuPonceau.

Vice-Presidents—Zaccheus Collins, R. M. Patterson, Nathaniel Chapman.

Secretaries—Franklin Bache, C. C. Biddle, J. K. Kane, Ch. D. Meigs.

Councillors for three years—John Q. Adams, John Sergeant, Wm. Short, Samuel Moore.

Councillor for one year—Robert Adrain.

Curators—James Mease, Wm. E. Horner, John P. Wetherill.

Treasurer—John Vaughan.

"Dr. Patterson on behalf of the Judges read a letter

which they had addressed to Mr. DuPonceau, announcing his election to the office of President; and Mr. DuPonceau's reply."

Historical Committee reported forwarding the Memorial.

Dr. Meigs offered his resignation as Secretary, accepted.

Geo. Ord was then unanimously elected in his place.

Library donations from five academies, &c., and from Dr. Zollickoffer, of Baltimore, Bishop White, Jos. Von. Hammer, and Jules Klaproth.

Cabinet donation: Centennial Medal of the Imperial Academy, Russia.

J. Von Hammer's letter from Vienna, with a copy of his "Les Mines de l'Orient," elicited the following resolution:

The Society having received from Count Wencèslaus Rzewusky, through Mr. Counsellor of State Von Hammer, a complete set, in six Volumes folio, of the justly celebrated Journal of Asiatic Literature, published at Vienna, under that nobleman's auspices, and entitled "Les Mines de L'Orient." and being desirous of expressing their gratitude for this valuable gift;—

Resolved, That the President address a letter, in the name of the Society, to Count Wencèslaus Rzewusky, conveying to him their thanks for this valuable donation, and their sense of the great benefit and advantage, which science has derived from that important and highly useful work, and expressing at the same time their regret, that it has been discontinued, and their hopes that it may again be revived under his high patronage; and that the President also transmit to the Count, an official copy of this resolution.

Klaproth's request "to have a copy taken from a MS. in the Society's Library, entitled a Journal of Travels in Russia by Count Potocki," was referred to the Historical Committee with power to act.

"On the motions of a body on a surface of any form," by Dr. H. James Anderson, of New York, was referred to Patterson, Adrain and Nulty.

Resignation of Rev. Dr. Jas. P. Wilson, read and accepted.

1828. *Jan'y* 18. (Present, 31. DuPonceau; Collins, Biddle, Meigs, Harlan, Dewees, Patterson, Coates, B. R. Mor-

gan, T. Gilpin, Horner, Vaughan, Collin, Wetherill, Brown, Adrain, Bache, Mitchell, Mease, James, Hembel, Kane, Eberle, Lukens, Vaux, Ord.)

Committee on Dr. Edwin James' paper reported it worthy of publication, "but for sundry reasons" offered a resolution, which was adopted, that it be referred to the Publishing Committee with power "either to publish it themselves in a future volume, or hand it over to the Hist. Com. for publication."

Committee on Izard's letter of January 10, 1827, reported, with a similar resolution, which was adopted.

Committee on Anderson's paper reported it for publication in the Transactions.

Library donations from Enoch Lewis, Von Hammer, Klaproth, Tiarks, C. Bonaparte, Collin and others.

A written communication of Mr. DuPonceau "relating to some of the interests of the Society" was referred to the Board of Officers.

"On a *marine animal* discovered in the Alluvion of the Mississippi, near to its mouth, now exhibiting in Baltimore." Verbal communication by Dr. Harlan, who had examined it. It was not fossil. It was undoubtedly a *Physeter macrocephalus*, or Spermaceti whale, on which an *erroneous fossil genus Megistosaurus* had been established. (See Minutes of April 20, 1827.)

Insurance: On motion of C. C. Biddle

"*Resolved,* That the Committee of Finance be directed to effect a permanent insurance of $4000 on the Hall, and an insurance for seven years of $6000 on the Books, Minerals, Specimens of Natural History, &c.

"*Resolved,* That $150 be placed at the disposal of the Committee for said purpose. On reconsideration $230 was substituted."

Memorial to the Legislature:

"*Resolved,* That the Secretary write to W. M. Meredith of the Penna. Legislature, requesting him not to present the memorial for aid in publishing the Historical Documents."

Standing Committees appointed for 1828: Building Committee: Strickland, Vaughan, Patterson.

Finance Committee: Biddle (C. C.), Patterson, Ord.

Publication Committee: Patterson, Ord, Dr. Bache.

Appropriations voted for 1828: Building Committee, $150; Periodicals, $200; Binding, $75; current expenses, $150.

Librarian elected: John Vaughan.

New members elected: Don José Maria Bustamente, of Mexico; Don José Maria Salazar, of Colombia; Thomas Harris, M.D., of Philadelphia; Robert E. Griffith, Jr., M. D.; Charles Pickering, M.D.; Samuel G. Morton, M.D., Philadelphia.

An irregularity having taken place in balloting for one of the candidates proposed for membership, it was

"*Resolved,* That the election for the said candidate be postponed until the next stated meeting of the Society."

1828. *Feb'y* 1. (Present, 40. DuPonceau in the Chair; Vaughan, Mr. Collins, Hembel, Kane, Nulty, Nichols, Strickland, Dr. Jackson, Short, Dr. Meigs, *Dr. Harris*, Hopkinson, Dr. Eberle, Ware, T. Gilpin, C. C. Biddle, Carey, Vaux, Dr. Coates, Dr. Patterson, Dr. Collin, Dr. Bache, *Dr. Griffith*, Dr. Harlan, Dr. Adrain, Bull, *Dr. Pickering*, Wm. Jones, Dr. Moore, Dr. Brown, Wetherill, Dr. Chapman, Haines, *Dr. Morton*, Lorick, Dr. Dewees, Dr. Mitchell, Dr. Horner, Ord.)

Library donations from Wm. Humboldt, and others.

Rev. Dr. Collin "made a verbal communication with respect to Prof. Thunberg, from whom he had lately received letters, in which he had requested to be remembered to the Society."

Megatherium: "Dr. Harlan stated that Wm. H. Todd, Esq., of Phil. had lately put into his hands, for examination, a fossil *clavicle* & part of the *sternum* of the *Megatherium* which Mr. Todd had discovered in a *Marlpit,* at his plantation, in the State of New Jersey."

A motion for proceeding with the *postponed election* did

not prevail, "the president having expressed his opinion that an election on this evening could not be gone into, agreeably to the Laws of the Society."

1828. *Feb'y* 15. (Present, 17. Chapman in the Chair; *Salazar*, Griffith, Pickering, and others.)

Annual Address of the President: "The Board of Officers, to whom was referred the address of the president, delivered on the 18th January, made a report, containing the following resolutions:

1. Resolved, That it be hereafter the duty of the President, to present to the society, at the close of each year, or as soon thereafter as convenient, a statement of the most important transactions of the society, during the year; accompanied with a general view of the affairs of the institution.

2. Resolved, That these statements be made in writing, and carefully preserved among the society's papers.

3. Resolved, That a book be prepared and kept, for the purpose of preserving brief obituary notices of deceased members of the society.

4. Resolved, That it shall be the duty of any member, who shall be informed of the Death of any of our associates, to communicate the fact at the first subsequent meeting of the society; that this information be entered in the minutes; and that a member shall be appointed to prepare an obituary notice, which, after being read, and approved, shall be inserted in the book appropriated for this purpose.

5. Resolved, That the Curators be instructed to prepare a Catalogue of the articles in the society's Cabinet.

6. Resolved, That a committee be appointed to prepare for the press, a Supplement to the catalogue of the society's Library; and that they report to the society an estimate of the expense of printing such supplement.

These resolutions were adopted.

Catalogue Supplement Committee chosen: DuPonceau, Patterson, Mitchell.

Library donations from the Maclurian Lyceum of Philadelphia and eight other persons and institutions.

Communication from Prof. T. J. Matthews, of Transylvania University, read, and referred to Patterson, Adrain, Nulty.

J. M. Salazar's thanks for election read.

J. W. Dalman's thanks for election; acknowledging receipt of diploma.

Cabinet of Minerals: "Mr. Wetherill's resolution was adopted:

"That the Curators be requested to report . . . . a more improved plan of cases for our Minerals, and an estimate of their cost."

1828. *March* 7. (Present, 19. DuPonceau in the Chair; Adrain, Rawle, B. R. Morgan and others.)

Library donations: F. R. Hassler and seven other sources.

"Report of experiments made on the poison of the Rattle Snake," by Dr. Harlan; first part read by him.

"Some observations on the Moulting of Birds," by Mr. Ord, was read by him and referred to Morton, Pickering, Harlan.

Jos. Sabine, Secretary Horticultural Society, London, acknowledged receipt of Vol. III, Transactions.

Death of De Witt Clinton, Governor of New York, announced by Mr. DuPonceau:

Resolved, That the American Philosophical Society, "sharing in the sensibility which has been in common expressed at the death of their late distinguished associate De Witt Clinton; and desirous of testifying the high respect in which they held his services, as well in the cultivation of science as the promotion of the great public improvements, which were brought to so successful an issue under his auspices; direct the appointment of a member to prepare an Obituary notice of him."

The President appointed Wm. Rawle, Esq.

Further Resolved, "That a committee be appointed to address a Letter of Condolence to the family of De Witt Clinton on the heavy bereavement which they have sustained:" Chapman, Rawle, Morgan.

Athenæum Lease: "Mr. Vaughan stated to the Society that the Lease of the Athenæum had expired; & that the Directors of that institution were about bringing before the Stockholders a plan to purchase a Lot, and erect a building for their accommodation; whereupon it was

"*Resolved,* That the Building Committee and the Committee of Finance confer with a committee chosen by the Athenæum; and endeavor to re-

tain that Institution as tenants on such terms as they conceive to be for the interest of this Society; and that they have power to take order."

1828. *March* 21. (Present, 17. DuPonceau in the Chair.)

Athenæum Lease: Committee reported that they had agreed on the terms of a lease for five years, at $550 per annum; "& that they had made arrangements for certain *alterations in the building* according to the agreement of the parties."

Committee of Condolence reported their duty performed.

Committee on Ord's paper reported it for publication. So ordered.

Library donations from four persons.

Dr. Harlan concluded the reading of his paper (March 7), which was referred to Pickering, Coates, Ord.

J. F. Blumenbach (R. S. Göttingen) acknowledged receipt of Transactions.

Letter of thanks for donations: "Mr. Kane laid before the Society an account of the expense of *engraving* . . . . $24.65." Ordered paid.

Alterations in building: Resolutions offered by Dr. Patterson, and laid on the table for consideration:

Resolved, That an appropriation of Twelve hundred Dollars be made, for the purpose of fitting up apartments in the Basement story of the society's building; and of making other alteratioms, proposed by the committee, appointed at the last meeting, to confer with a committee to be chosen by the Athenæum, on the subject of a Lease.

Resolved, That the sum thus appropriated be put at the disposal of the Building Committee, for the purposes above stated.

Resolved, That it be referred to the Committee of Finance to raise the sum now appropriated, in such manner as they shall think most expedient.

1828. *April* 4. (Present, 15. DuPonceau in the Chair.)

Committee on Harlan's paper report it for publication. So ordered.

Library donations from two academies and nine persons.

Acknowledgments of receipt of Transactions American Philosophical Society, Vol. III, from three societies in London.

Cherokee newspaper, published at the Cherokee settlement in Georgia; subscription ordered.

Resolutions submitted by Dr. Patterson at the last meeting, considered and "severally adopted without amendment." [Minutes of this and subsequent meetings, written in a beautiful hand, and signed J. K. Kane.]

1828. *April* 18. (Present, 26. Patterson in the Chair; Brown, Bancker, Morton, Nichols, Lorich [*sic*], Vaughan, Griffith, Hopkinson, Harlan, Ord, Wetherill, Col. Biddle, Pickering, Vaux, Dr. Bache, Meigs, Short, Carey, Moore, Mitchell, Harris, Hembel, Haines, Dr. Coates, Kane.)

Library donations from three persons.

Mr. Nichols' paper (not intended for publication) was read by Mr. Vaughan, "presenting evidence in opposition to the assertion made by Mr. Hassler, in his recent work on Astronomy, viz., that *Kepler had anticipated Newton* in the discovery of the law of universal gravitation."

New members elected: José Maria Dantes Pereira, Admiral, and Sec. R. S. Lisbon; Henry J. Anderson, M.D., Prof. Math., Columbia College, N. Y.; Isaac Lea, of Philadelphia.

1828. *May* 2. (Present, 15. DuPonceau in the Chair; *Lea*, and others.)

Prof. Anderson's thanks for election were read.

Library donations from five sources.

Acknowledgments from two societies.

Dr. Patterson (in reference to Hassler's claim of priority for Kepler over Newton) read extracts from the works of Copernicus and Kepler, communicated to him by letter by Mr. Hassler; and said that "they showed merely that an extension of the force of gravity to the heavenly bodies had

been originated by these astronomers, but they contained no indication whatever of the law by which it acts; so that the claim of the discovery for Newton was not invalidated by them."

1828. *May* 16. (Present, 14. DuPonceau in the Chair.)

Transactions American Philosophical Society III, iii, reported ready for distribution.

Library donations from thirteen sources. Letters from various foreign societies acknowledged the receipt of copies of the Transactions.

Wm. Shaler's thanks for membership were read.

"*A Catalogue of all the members* of the Society from its commencement, with the dates of their election, & such other notices respecting them, arranged in columns or otherwise, as they shall on deliberation think proper to introduce," the Secretaries were instructed to prepare.

The Librarian was instructed to purchase Whewell's Mechanics.

1828. *June* 20. (Present, 15. DuPonceau in the Chair.)

Library donations from Mariáno Cubi y Soler, of Baltimore; Rivinus, of Germantown; James Monroe, of Virginia, and nine other sources. Royal Society of London acknowledged receipt of Transactions.

Mexican Calendar: "A donation to the Cabinet of models of two stones found in Mexico, one of which was said to be that of the ancient Mexican Calendar, was received from Joel R. Poinsett."

"Observations on the birds of the genus *Tetrao*, with a synopsis of the species hitherto known," by Charles Lucien Bonaparte, was read and referred to Ord, Pickering and Harlan.

The Librarian was authorized to buy Elliott's Botany of South Carolina, for presentation to, and at the request of, the Asiatic Society of Calcutta.

1828. *July* 18. (Present, 16. Patterson; Ord, Hembel, Horner, Ware, Moore, Pickering Harlan, Lukens, Chapman, Vaughan, Adrain, Meigs, Nichols, Dr. Bache, Kane.)

Committee on Bonaparte's paper reported. Ord's motion for publication laid on the table for consideration at the next meeting.

Library donations from seven sources.

Minerals and vegetable remains from the deep cut of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, presented by Mr. Kane for the Cabinet.

"On the Berber language:" Mr. Vaughan read parts of a letter recently received by Mr. DuPonceau from Wm. Shaler, Esq.

Acknowledgment of donations received from the Royal Irish Academy.

Mr. Abr. Small's offer "to sell to the Society the remaining copies" of Transactions, Vols. I and II (N. S.), "with the plates, for the amount now due from him to the Society, on his bond held by them, say $250 and the interest," was referred to the Publication Committee with full power to take order.

Alterations: The Building Committee and Curators were constituted a Committee "to make such alterations in the Hall of the Society, as may be required for the better disposition of the Library and Cabinet," and $200 were appropriated for the purpose.

New members elected: Dr. Samuel Betton, of Germantown; George Ticknor, of Boston.

1828. *Aug.* 15. (Present, 15. DuPonceau in the Chair.)

Publication Committee reported Small's offer accepted, bond cancelled, and books received.

Library donations from nine persons and one society. "The Librarian having stated that he had received from his Exc. Baron Schuckmann, Min. Home Dept. of H. M. the King of Prussia, through the Prussian *Charge des Af-*

faires, M. Niederstetter, *thirty-two volumes of the Berlin Memoires*, of which our Library was deficient, it was

"*Resolved*, That the President be requested to acknowledge the safe reception of this valuable donation."

Mr. Joseph Reed deposited in the Library "L'Histoire Générale des Provinces Unies," in 7 Vols. 4°.

Berber language: W. B. Hodgson's letter to DuPonceau, Algiers, May 28, 1828, described the progress of his investigations of the Berber language.

"On the change of the temperature of the air, & of the weather, which the climate of an inhabited and cultivated country may undergo after a lapse of some ages," by Francis Nichols, was read by Mr. Kane. "At the request of the author, no order was taken on this communication." [None of Mr. Nichols' papers seem to have been intended for publication.]

"On the discovery of the Solar System," by Mr. Nichols, was read by Mr. Vaughan.

Resignation of Dr. Patterson from the Publication, Building and Finance Committees, offered and accepted, on account of his change of residence from Philadelphia to the University of Virginia.

Isaac Lea was then chosen on the Publishing Committee; J. K. Kane, on the Building Committee; and Roberts Vaux, on the Finance Committee.

C. Bonaparte's paper was taken from the table, discussed, and ordered for publication in the Transactions.

1828. *Sept.* 19. (Present, 22. Collins in the Chair.)

Building Committee reported that the appropriation of $1200 (April 4) was insufficient.

Resolved, That $150 be placed at the disposal of the Committee "to enable them to liquidate all the claims against the Society, which have arisen from the late alterations and improvements in the building."

Library donations from Rev. Ezra Styles Ely; C. Bernard,

Duke of Saxe-Weimer, and thirteen other persons, and one society.

For the Cabinet, some iron ores from Dr. T. Cooper.

Letters from Com. Torlade d'Azambuja (now at Washington); Viscount de Santarem, of Lisbon; E. Drummond Hay, Sec. S. Antiq., Scotland; Wm. Marsden, Esq., F.R.S.; and Dr. Philip Tidyman, were read.

Geo. Ticknor's letter, "expressing his satisfaction, on his having been elected a member of the Society," was read.

"Remarks on the use of the *Maxillæ* in *Coleopterous* insects; with an account of two species of the family *Telephoridæ*, and of three of the family *Mordillidæ*, which ought to be the type of two distinct genera," by N. M. Hentz, of North Carolina, was read by Dr. Harlan, and referred to Pickering, Harlan and Collins.

"On a *change of climate* in the United States," by Mr. Nichols, was read by Mr. Kane. The author requested that no order should be taken. An extract from a Thermometrical Register, kept by Dr. Hodge in Walnut street, Philadelphia, in August, 1828; with some remarks by Mr. Nichols; was read by Mr. Kane. "Some interesting verbal observations on the change of climate observed in the U. S. of late years, were now made by Drs. Hare, Cooper, Mease, Chapman, & Messrs. Vaux, Hopkinson, Vaughan, Collins, & Hembel."

1828. *Oct.* 3. (Present, 12. DuPonceau in the Chair; Hembel, Vaughan, Ord, Harlan, Collins, Carey, Col. Biddle, Pickering, Hare, Meigs, Kane.)

Library donations from four sources.

A MS. of Franklin, "giving an account of his interview with Lord Hillsborough, on the 16th of Jan. 1771," was presented by Richard Henry Lee, Esq., through Mr. Vaughan.

Mr. Ord *deposited* in the Library a copy of Ainsworth's folio Dictionary, 4th ed., 1752. A letter from the Secretary French Institute, March 26, 1828, announced the transmission of donations to this Society.

Jos. Graberg's letter, dated Tripoli, in Africa, April 10, 1828, communicated his thanks for election to membership, and announced the transmission by him of several donations.

"On the *Arabic dialect* of the Mog'rib-el-aksa, or language of the Moors," by J. Graberg, was read and referred to DuPonceau, Collins, and Hopkinson.

1828. *Oct.* 17. (Present, 19. DuPonceau in the Chair.)

Committee on Hentz's paper reported for its publication. Adopted.

Committee on Graberg's paper reported progress.

Library donations from the King of Denmark, Prof. Rafn, Royal Danish Society, Prof. Ormsted, M. LeVasseur, of Paris, and four others. The President was requested to "express to Mr. Pedersen, as the representative of his Danish Majesty, the gratitude of the Society for the very liberal donation made by his majesty to the library of this institution."

Rafn's communication "on the subject of certain *monuments* discovered on the coast of Greenland, which establish this fact, that America was visited by inhabitants of the North of Europe in the year 1135," was read, and "referred to the President for reply."

Ord's resignation from the Publication Committee was communicated and accepted; and R. E. Griffith appointed to supply the vacancy.

For binding books, an additional $40 was appropriated.

Revision of the Laws: On motion of Dr. Chapman a Committee was appointed "to take into consideration the revisal of the laws of the Society." The President, Mr. Hopkinson, and Mr. Kane.

New member elected: Prof. James Renwick, of Columbia College, New York.

1828. *Nov.* 7. (Present, 18. Chapman in the Chair; Seybert, and others.)

Library donations from thirteen sources; among others J. P. C. Casado Giraldes of Havre, whose letter requesting geographical and statistical information was referred to Vaughan and Raguet, to collect the information asked.

M. Quadrado's request was granted, and the Librarian directed to complete the Set of Transactions American Philosophical Society in the Library of the Royal Academy at Madrid.

"A brief view of the policy of the Founders of the Colonies of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, N. Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, & Carolina, as regards the liberty of conscience," by Mr. Carey, was read by Dr. Bache. It was not offered for publication.

"The Athenæum being desirous of relinquishing the basement story room, in case a satisfactory arrangement could be made," the Building Committee were "authorized to confer with any committee . . . . appointed on the part of the Athenæum," and report at the next meeting.

1828. *Nov.* 21. (Present, 17. Du Ponceau in the Chair.)

Building Committee reporting that the Athenæum Committee "offer, either to give up the room, on a reduction of $100 [? 160] in the rent, or to let the room jointly with the Society, and share the profits;" "the whole subject was referred to the Building Com. to take order thereon."

Library donations from five persons, and the editor *Southern Review.*

The death of Prof. Thunberg, of Upsal, was announced, and Mr. Lorich was appointed to prepare a biographical notice.

1828. *Dec.* 5. (Present, 16. DuPonceau in the Chair.)

Publication Committee "made a report of their proceedings from the date of their appointment up to the present time." Accepted.

Building Committee reported, that they had agreed with

the Athenæum about the *north basement room;* the Athenæum relinquishing it, on a reduction of $75 on their rent; "making their rent from the first of the present month $475."

Library donations from four persons. For the Cabinet, "several specimens of the siliceous deposits from the great *spring of Geyser*, in Iceland," from Mr. Pedersen.

1828. *Dec.* 19. (Present, 16. Du Ponceau in the Chair.)

Committee on Graberg's paper reported, with a resolution, which was adopted:

"*Resolved,* That the Secretary address a letter of thanks in the usual form to Mr. Graberg de Hemso, for the copy which he has been pleased to send to the Society of his interesting communicatian to the Journal Asiatique of Paris, on the Arabic dialect spoken & written by the Moors of Africa."

Library donations from Adelung and three other persons.

For the Cabinet, a donation [not described] from Mrs. Griffiths, of New Brunswick, New Jersey.

Poinsett's MSS.: "A letter from Mr. Poinsett was read respecting some manuscripts, which he had collected, relating to early journeys made through portions of Mexico, & to certain antiquities. These MSS. the writer expressed his intention to *deposite* [*sic*] in the Society's cabinet."

"On the effect of cultivation on Climate," by Mr. Nichols, was read.

Adelung's request for a copy of the Transactions [N. S.] American Philosophical Society was granted.

The Seal used by the Secretaries being reported by Mr. Kane as lost, DuPonceau, Vaughan and Kane were appointed a Committee "to determine a suitable device for a new seal to be engraved without delay."

1829. *Jan'y* 2. (Present, 9. Strickland in the Chair; Lukens, Harlan, Vaughan, Meigs, Wetherill, Mitchell, Mease, Morton.)